



**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

ATTN: OFFICE OF PUBLICATIONS

Kaoru SAKAKIBARA et al.

Notice of Allowance Mailed  
02/24/2004 - Batch/Confirmation No. 4874

Application No.: 10/648,308

Group Art Unit: 3765

Filed: August 27, 2003

Examiner: P. Nerbun

Docket No.: 116936

For: THIN-FILM MAGNETIC HEAD AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING SAME

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Following are Applicants comments in reply to the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance in the February 24, 2004 Notice of Allowance.

In paragraph 3, page 2 of the Notice of Allowance, the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowing claim 1 and its dependent claims are that the claims specifically require a thread limiting unit limiting a threading mechanism so that the threading mechanism is inoperative in a case where a thread cassette is attached to a cassette mount when a sewing apparatus is disconnected from a power supply.

However, the reasons for allowance fail to include reasons for allowance of claim 8. Applicants note that claim 8 also includes the limitation recited above. For clarification, Applicants note that claim 8 is also allowable at least because nowhere do the references of

record teach or disclose a sewing apparatus comprising a limiting unit limiting the threading mechanism and the thread carrying mechanism so that both the threading mechanism and the thread carrying mechanism are inoperative in a case where the thread cassette is attached to the cassette mount when the apparatus is disconnected from a power supply.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below if further comment is necessary.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Linda M. Saltiel  
Registration No. 51,122

JAO:LMS/mlv

Date: May 19, 2004

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

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